

## Community resources

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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 04QUITO2446, PRESIDENT GUTIERREZ' LATEST POLITICAL BLUNDER

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#04QUITO2446**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
04QUITO2446	2004-09-08 13:18	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Quito

Appears in these articles:

<http://m.elcomercio.com/wikileaks/cable.php?c=34173cb>  
<http://m.elcomercio.com/wikileaks/cable.php?c=6ea9ab1>

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

081318Z Sep 04

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 QUITO 002446

SIPDIS

SECSTATE FOR USTR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/07/2014

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ELAB](#) [EC](#)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT GUTIERREZ' LATEST POLITICAL BLUNDER

REF: QUITO 2251

Classified By: Ambassador Kristie A. Kenney for reasons 1.4 (b&d).

**1.** (C) Summary: President Gutierrez urgently invited the Ambassador to a private breakfast on September 7 to discuss fallout from his recent

Background

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**2.** (SBU) Press interest in a possible meeting was provoked by ongoing speculation that Gutierrez has agreed to help Bucaram return from exile

Panama: Comedy of Errors

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**3.** (C) Nevertheless, the meeting with Bucaram did in fact take place and became public. The President explained his political blunder by tel

**4.** (C) According to Gutierrez, Bucaram proceeded to plea his case to return to Ecuador on "humanitarian" grounds, alleging a political conspi Gutierrez. Comment: this is farfetched, since Bucaram is probably the only Ecuadorian politician with lower popularity than Gutierrez himself. End Comment.

**5.** (C) Ultimately, according to Gutierrez, Bucaram asked him to form a governmental commission to review the charges against him (a sort of " Gutierrez said he responded to Bucaram's request with a promise only to ask his government's legal experts to consider the request. Gutierrez

Other Issues: TIP and Labor

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**6.** (C) Gutierrez brightened when the Ambassador raised other areas of USG interest. He cited the submission to Congress of new anti-TIP legi

**7.** (SBU) The Ambassador also raised the draft Presidential decree on subcontracting, which we understood would be issued shortly and would cl Gutierrez indicated he was aware of the issue and would check with Labor Minister Izurieta on its status. The Ambassador told the President we

Comment

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**9.** (C) Gutierrez' clumsy handling of his visit to Panama reflects either poor political judgment or naivete. We tend to agree with the Presi democracy. - KENNEY